

FLORENCE TATE.

JANUARY 19, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WOOD, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 8568.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 8568) granting a pension to Florence Tate, submit the following report:

The claimant, Florence Tate, is the permanently helpless daughter of Samuel A. Tate, who was a private in Company I, Fortieth Regiment Illinois Volunteers, who had an honorable service from October 17, 1861, to July 24, 1865, and who died October 26, 1891, of consumption. The widow, Sarah E. Tate, is now drawing a pension under act of June 27, 1890, of \$8 per month, and \$2 additional for one minor child. The widow is now 48 years of age and has no means of support for herself and family except this small pension and her labor.

The claimant, Florence Tate, was born January 18, 1869. Her body, lower and upper extremities, has the appearance of a child less than 1 year old. Her head, hair, and face show full age. Her weight is 30 pounds. She requires the aid and attention of a baby, and has never stood on her feet or walked a step in her life. She sits by day in a baby chair or carriage, and is absolutely helpless. She is more than usually intelligent.

Being over 16 years of age at the time of her father's death no allowance could be made for her under general laws.

The committee have examined a large amount of evidence filed in support of this claim. There has also been submitted to the committee photographs of the claimant which fully corroborate all that has been above submitted.

The committee, in view of the long service of the soldier and the utter helplessness of this unfortunate child, believe that a moderate pension should be granted to her individually. They therefore recommend that the bill be amended by striking out of line 7 the word "twenty-five" and insert in lieu thereof the word "twelve."